Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, South Dakota ranks in the top five honey producing states with an annual production in 2012 of 17 million pounds of high quality, mild tasting honey with an approximate value of $33 million; and,

Whereas, South Dakota is home to 214 beekeepers who maintain 319,000 colonies residing on 6,692 locations across the state; and,

Whereas, South Dakota honey bee colonies participate in vital pollination activities in diverse crops such as almonds, apples, blueberries, cherries, citrus, and vegetables while wintering in southern and western states; and,

Whereas, Honey bees contribute significantly to the pollination of our food supply from South Dakota farms and gardens while actively foraging for pollen and nectar; and,

Whereas, Honey bee pollination plays a vital role in the health of our farms, forests, and grasslands which provide forage and habitat that contribute to a healthy and diverse ecosystem; and,

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 2013 as

HONEY MONTH

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Nineteenth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Thirteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State